

**House File 373 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 373

BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 91)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act increasing the criminal penalty for a sexually violent  
2 predator who escapes or attempts to escape from custody.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 229A.5B, subsection 2, Code 2015, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. A person who violates subsection 1 commits a ~~simple~~  
4 serious misdemeanor or may be subject to punishment for  
5 contempt.

6 EXPLANATION

7 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
8 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

9 Under current law, a sexually violent predator who is  
10 civilly committed pursuant to Code chapter 229A, or a person  
11 who is detained pending a determination of whether the person  
12 is a sexually violent predator, who escapes or attempts to  
13 escape from custody pursuant to Code section 229A.5B commits  
14 a simple misdemeanor or may be subject to punishment for  
15 contempt. This bill provides that such a violation is a  
16 serious misdemeanor or may be punishable as contempt.

17 A simple misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for no  
18 more than 30 days or a fine of at least \$65 but not more than  
19 \$625 or by both. A serious misdemeanor is punishable by  
20 confinement for no more than one year and a fine of at least  
21 \$315 but no more than \$1,875.